Sterne Kessler Goldstein Fox
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

OIPE TAP40 JUL 11 2006 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Robert Greene Sterne
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Horner
Robert C. Millonig
Donald J. Featherstone
Timothy J. Shea, Jr
Michael V. Messinger
Judith U. Kim

Patrick E. Garrett
Jeffrey T. Helvey
Eldora L. Ellison
Thomas C. Fiala
Donald R. Banowit
Peter A. Jackman
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Brian J. Del Buono
Edward W. Yee
Vincent L. Capuano
Virgil Lee Beaston
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Rae Lynn P. Guest
Daniel A. Klein
Jason D. Eisenberg

Michael D. Specht
Tracy L. Muller
Jon E. Wright
LuAnne M. DeSantis
Ann E. Summerfield
Helene C. Carlson
Cynthia M. Bouchez
Timothy A. Doyle
Gaby L. Longsworth
Lori A. Gordon
Laura A. Vogel
Bryan S. Wade
Bashir M.S. Ali
Shannon A. Carroll
Matthew E. Kelley
Anbar F. Khal
Michelle K. Holoubek
Marsha A. Rose

Young Tang
Christopher J. Walsh
W. Blake Coblentz*
James J. Pohl*
John T. Haran*
Mark W. Rygiel
Kevin W. McCabe

Registered Patent Agents•
Karen R. Markowicz
Matthew J. Dowd
Katrina Yujian Pei Quach
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman
Victoria S. Rutherford
Simon J. Elliott
Julie A. Heider
Mita Mukherjee

Scott M. Woodhouse
Liliana Di Nola-Baron
Peter A. Socarras
Jeffrey K. Mills
Danielle L. Letting
Lori Brandes
Steven C. Oppenheimer

Of Counsel
Edward J. Kessler
Kenneth C. Bass III
Marvin C. Guthrie

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*Admitted only in Virginia
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July 11, 2006

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8660
INTERNET ADDRESS:
TDURKIN@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 3745

Attn: Mail Stop AF

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/826,287; Filed: April 19, 2004
For: **Pump Unit**
Inventors: OHASHI *et al.*
Our Ref: 2244.0010002/TGD/AKS

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116, and

2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 32,831

TGD/AKS/rss/k-b
Enclosures

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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure – Art Unit 3745

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	Confirmation No.: 9929
Ohashi *et al.*	Art Unit: 3745
Appl. No.: 10/826,287	Examiner: Thomas E. Lazo
Filed: April 19, 2004	Atty. Docket: 2244.0010002/TGD
For: **Pump Unit**	

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated April 12, 2006, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

(A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;

(B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;

(C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:

- in ascending order;

- with status identifiers; and

- with markings in the currently amended claims;

(D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying

this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.